

*Transmitted Via Facsimile to (703) 872-9306*

9D-DW-19892  
PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A door panel assembly for a dishwasher comprising:

a panel comprising ~~an integral~~ a unitary formation downwardly depending therefrom, said formation comprising a boot-shaped portion defining a heel portion, a toe portion substantially perpendicular to said heel portion, and a curved arch portion tapering from said heel portion to said toe portion; and

a seal member comprising a head portion and an opening therein complementary in shape to said formation, ~~said formation received in said opening, said heel portion and said toe portion cooperating~~ said head portion opening defining a heel portion, an arch portion, and a toe portion for receiving respective portions of said boot-shaped portion of said formation to retain said seal member on said formation.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said seal member further comprising a flap portion extending from said head portion.

4. (currently amended) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said formation and said seal member adapted for slide on installation of said seal member to said door panel.

5. (currently amended) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim ~~[[4]]~~ 3, said panel further comprising a barrier portion extending from said panel in a spaced apart relationship to said formation, and wherein said flap portion of said seal member extends beyond said barrier portion.

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6. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 5 wherein said door panel comprises an inner door panel.

7. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said formation depends from a bottom portion of said inner door panel.

8. (currently amended) A door panel assembly for a dishwasher, said door panel assembly comprising:

an inner door panel comprising ~~an integral~~ a unitary formation extending downwardly therefrom, said formation comprising at least one flat surface and a curved surface extending opposite said flat surface, said at least one flat surface defining a heel portion extending beyond said curved surface, said curved surface tapering to a toe portion; and

a seal member comprising a head portion and an opening therethrough, said opening complimentary in shape to said formation and slidably receiving said formation ~~and attaching to~~ attach said seal member to said formation.

9. (original) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said formation comprises a boot portion, said boot portion comprising a flat rear edge.

10. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 9, wherein said heel portion extends from said flat rear edge.

11. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 10, said boot portion comprising a curved arch portion extending from said heel.

12. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 8, said inner door panel further comprising a barrier portion extending therefrom in a spaced apart

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relationship to said formation, said flat surface of said formation extending substantially parallel to said barrier formation.

13. (original) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said formation extends from a bottom portion of said inner panel.

14. (currently amended) A door panel assembly comprising:

a panel comprising a bottom portion, ~~an integral~~ a formation extending downwardly therefrom, and a barrier portion extending downwardly therefrom in a spaced apart relationship to said formation, said bottom portion, said formation, and said barrier portion each being unitarily formed with said panel; and

a seal member comprising a head portion and a flap portion extending from said head portion and contacting a distal end of said barrier portion, said head portion comprising an opening therethrough for receiving said formation, said head portion engaged to said formation.

15. (original) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said seal member is adapted for slide on engagement with said formation.

16. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 15 wherein said formation comprises a boot portion comprising at least a curved arch surface.

17. (previously presented) A door panel assembly in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said boot portion further comprises a flat edge extending substantially parallel to said barrier portion.

18. - 20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A bottom door seal for an inner panel of a dishwasher door, said seal comprising:

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a head portion and a flap portion extending from said head portion, said head portion defining a boot-shaped opening having a heel portion, a toe portion angularly displaced from said heel portion, and a curved arch portion tapering from said heel portion to said toe portion, wherein said head portion ~~and said flap portion are configured for engagement with a~~ is configured to receive a complementarily shaped protrusion on the door panel for sliding attachment of the seal to the door panel.

22. (currently amended) A seal according to Claim 21 wherein said flap portion extends beyond a barrier portion of the door panel and is configured for engagement with ~~a~~ the barrier portion of the door panel.